received from the above beneficiaries to the effect that they should be allowed to avail of Homoeopathic services from the Gole Market dispensary, which is only 500 metres away from their residences;

(c) if so, what action has so far been taken thereon; and

(d) by when the CGHS beneficiaries attached with North Avenue Allopathic Dispensary are likely to be attached with the Homeopathic Dispensary at Gole Market ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A few representations have been received from the beneficiaries.

(c) Instructions have been issued to attach the beneficiaries of North Avenue Dispensary with Gole Market Dispensary for availing of Homoeopathic Services.

(d) Does not arise.

Treatment of Osteo Arthritis

905. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hospitals in Delhi which are equipped to treat Questo-Arthritis disease;

(b) what are the allopathic and ayurvedic drugs prescribed for the disease;

(c) whether any serious research efforts has been made by the ICMR to find an effective drug for this disease and the number of institutions in which research is going on to find an effective drug; and

(d) whether it is possible to cure this disease or control it from further deterioration ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Most of the Government hospitals in Delhi are equipped to treat Osteo-Arthritis cases.

(b) Non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs are commonly prescribed for the treatment of the disease under allopathic system of medicine. Under the ayurvedic system, different drugs are prescribed, keeping in view the various factors relating to the patient and the disease.

(c) The I. C. M. R. is presently not conducting any research in this behalf.

(d) Osteo-arthritis is a chronic degenerative disease which can be controlled with the help of physical therapy and drugs.

Glass Powder in Isabgol

906. SHRI CHATURANAN MISRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in "Jansatta" Hindi of 22nd April, 1992;

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that glass-powder was found in a packet of "Isabgol" purchased from a shop-keeper in Shahdara Delhi;

(d) whether on 29th March and 18th April, 1992 a letter was sent to the Lt. Governor of Delhi drawing his attention about this; and

(e) what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) As per information received from Delhi Administration, the case, as reported in the newsreport, was promptly investigated by its Drug Control department, though no formal complaint was received. Efforts made to locate the purchaser of the adulterated Isabgol powder went in vain and, therefore, sample could not be obtained for verification. Further, no patients by the names noted in the newsreport were admitted in GTB Hospital. No stock of the item was found with M/s. Shriram Ram Chander, 11. Chhoti Bazar, Shandara, Delhi. Moreover, no letter on the subject addressed to tre Lt. Governor of

Delhi has been received. Under the circumstances, the veracity of the newsreport could not be established.

Opening of Unani Dispensary at Bangalore

907. SHRI ABDUL SAMAD SIDDIQUI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the CGHS beneficiaries from Bangalore; for opening of Unani dispensary at Bangalore; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request received from the CGHS beneficiaries of Bangalore for setting up a new Unani dispensary at Bangalore has been referred to the Central Government Employees Welfare Coordination Committee, Bangalore for their views/recommendations which will be examined by the Government subject to the availabiliy of funds.

Opening of Dispensaries in I. S. M.

908. SHRI ABDUL SAMAD SIDDIQUI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the criteria for opening a new I.S.M. dispensary under CGHS;

(b) whether the dispensaries are opened on public/beneficiaries demand;

(c) the number of dispensaries of I.S.M. opened during the Seventh five year plan, in each system of I.S.M.; and

(d) the number of new dispensaries of I.S.M. in each system proposed to be opened during the Eighth five year plan ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) ISM dispensaries are opened under CGHS on the demand from the CGHS beneficiaries, the recommendation of the Central Government Employees Welfare Coordination Committee and the assessment of need.

(c) During the Seventh Five Year Plan, Two Ayurvedic, Two Homoeopathic and Two Unani Units were set up under CGHS.

(d) The opening of new I.S.M. dispensaries under CGHS in the Eigth Five Year Plan would depend upon the availability of funds during the plan period, demands from beneficiaries and Central Government Employees Welfare Coordination Committee and the assessment of needs.

Opening of Unani Dispensaries

909. SHRI ABDUL SAMAD SIDDIQUI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that number of Unani dispensaries under CGHS is very small as compared to other systems;

(b) whether Government propose to open Unani dispensaries in the cities where there are other system dispensaries already available; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Blood Banks

910. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has decided to set up a panel of doctors to conduct surprise check on Blood Banks in Government Hospitals and Private Clinics to detect AIDS affected blood stored there; and

(b) whether Government has any proposal to direct the State Governments to set up panel of doctors to keep check on blood banks.